

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to the Office Action mailed from the Patent and Trademark Office on July 8, 2011, which has a shortened statutory period set to expire October 8, 2011. A three month extension, extending the period of response to January 8, 2012, is filed herewith.

Claims 1, 4-10, 16, 17, 19, 21-30, 38, and 47-50 are pending in the above-identified application, and are rejected under 35 USC 112 and 35 USC 103 for the reasons set forth below.

In the current paper, Claims 1 and 10 are amended in response to the rejection under 35 USC 112 and to clarify the subject matter of the claimed invention. Claim 38 is canceled herein. No new matter is entered. In view of these amendments and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of all pending rejections.

Rejections Under 35 USC 112

Rejections Under 35 USC 112, First Paragraph

Claims 1, 4-10, 16-17, 19, 21-20, 38 and 47-50 are rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, for reasons set forth in paragraph 1 of the Office action.

Claims 1 and 10 are amended to address the specific rejection raised by the Examiner. In particular, Claim 1 is amended to remove the recitation of magnetic domains "being disposed in an areal density that is compliant with ANSI/IS/IEC hard disk drive standards", and Claim 10 is amended in a similar fashion. No new matter is entered. In view of these amendments, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 USC 112, first paragraph.

Rejections Under 35 USC 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 1, 4-10, 16-17, 19, 21-20, 38 and 47-50 are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, for reasons set forth in paragraph 2 of the Office action.

Claims 1 and 10 are amended to remove the recitations of "compliant with ANSI/IS/IEC hard disk drive standards", thereby obviating these rejections. No new matter is entered. In view of these amendments, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

Rejections Under 35 USC 103

Rejections over Liu and Wood

Claims 1, 4-10, 16-17, 19, 21-25, 27-28, 30 and 47-48 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu (2001/0052543) in view of Wood (US 5,041,922).

Claim 1 is amended herein to recite (in pertinent part) "...a hard disk drive storage medium...said plurality of magnetic domains having an areal density of between 2 megabits per sq. in. to about 10 gigabits per sq. in. and having a storage capability of more than 500 megabytes..." Support for "having an areal density of between 2 megabits per sq. in. to about 10 gigabits per sq. in..." is provided in Claim 38 as filed (now canceled). Support for "a hard disk drive storage medium" and "...having a storage capability of more than 500 megabytes..." is provided on page 2, lines 1-7 of the specification.

In contrast to the above-quoted limitation, neither Liu nor Wood suggest a portable card that includes "a hard disk drive storage medium...said plurality of magnetic domains having an areal density of between 2 megabits per sq. in. to about 10 gigabits per sq. in. and having a storage capability of more than 500 megabytes..." in combination with the other recited limitations

recited in Claim 1. As such, it would not have been obvious to combine the teachings of these references to produce the structures of Claim 1.

Claims 4-9 depend from Claim 1, and are therefore believed to be distinguished over the cited prior art for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 1.

Similar to Claim 1, Claim 10 recites "...a hard disk drive storage medium...said magnetic material having an areal density of about 10 gigabits per sq. in and having a storage capability in the range of at least 500 megabytes..." Support for this amendment is the same as that provided above with reference to Claim 1, and Claim 10 is distinguished over the cited prior art for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 1.

Claims 16-17, 19, 21-25, 27-28, 30 and 47-48 depend from Claim 10, and are therefore believed to be distinguished over the cited prior art for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10.

Rejections over Liu/Wood and Hirasawa

Claims 24 and 25 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood in view of Hirasawa (US Patent No. 6,250,552).

Claims 24 and 25 depend from Claim 10, and are believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Hirasawa fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood.

Rejections over Liu/Wood and Bajorek

Claims 26 and 49 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood in view of Bajorek (US Patent No. 6,482,330).

Claims 19, 26, 47 and 49 depend from Claim 10, and are believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Bajorek fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood.

Rejections over Liu/Wood and Mizoguchi

Claim 29 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood in view of Mizoguchi (US Patent No. 5,689,105).

Claim 29 depends from Claim 10, and is believed to be distinguished over Davis for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Mizoguchi fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood.

Rejections over Liu/Wood and Nishiyama

Claim 38 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood in view of Nishiyama (US Patent No. 5,721,942). Claim 38 is canceled herein, thus obviating this rejection.

Rejections over Liu/Wood and Meeks

Claim 48 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood in view of Meeks (US Patent No. 6,268,919).

Claim 48 depends from Claim 10, and is believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Meeks fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood.

Rejections over Liu/Wood and Foley

Claim 50 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood in view of Foley (US Patent No. 4,518,627).

Claim 50 depends from Claim 10, and is believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Foley fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood.

Rejections over Liu, Wood and Nishiyama

Claims 1, 4-10, 16-17, 19, 21-25, 27-28, 30, 38 and 47-48 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu (2001/0052543) in view of Wood (US 5,041,922) and Nishiyama (US Patent No. 5,721,942).

As set forth above Claim 1 is amended herein to recite (in pertinent part) "a hard disk drive storage medium...said plurality of magnetic domains having an areal density of between 2 megabits per sq. in. to about 10 gigabits per sq. in. and having a storage capability of more than 500 megabytes..." and Claim 10 is amended herein to recite (in pertinent part) "a hard disk drive storage medium...said magnetic material having an areal density of about 10 gigabits per sq. in and having a storage capability in the range of at least 500 megabytes...", and neither Liu nor Wood even remotely suggest these features in combination with the other recited limitations recited in Claims 1 and 10. Nishiyama fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood. As such, it would not have been obvious to combine the teachings of these references to produce the structures of Claims 1 and 10.

Claims 4-9 depend from Claim 1, and Claims 16-17, 19, 21-25, 27-28, 30 and 47-48 depend from Claim 10. Each of these claims is believed to be distinguished over the cited prior art

for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claims 1 and 10. Claim 38 is canceled herein, thus obviating the rejection directed to this claim.

Rejections over Liu/Wood/Nishiyama and Hirasawa

Claims 24 and 25 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood/Levy in view of Hirasawa (US Patent No. 6,250,552) and Levy (US Patent No. 4,884,507).

Claims 24 and 25 depend from Claim 10, and are believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood/Levy for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Hirasawa fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood/Levy.

Rejections over Liu/Wood/Nishiyama and Bajorek

Claims 26 and 49 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood/Levy in view of Bajorek (US Patent No. 6,482,330) and Levy (US Patent No. 4,884,507).

Claims 19, 26, 47 and 49 depend from Claim 10, and are believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood/Levy for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Bajorek fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood/Levy.

Rejections over Liu/Wood/Nishiyama and Mizoguchi

Claim 29 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood/Levy in view of Mizoguchi (US Patent No. 5,689,105) and Levy (US Patent No. 4,884,507).

Claim 29 depends from Claim 10, and is believed to be distinguished over Davis for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Mizoguchi fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood/Levy.

Rejections over Liu/Wood/Nishiyama and Meeks

Claim 48 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood/Levy in view of Meeks (US Patent No. 6,268,919) and Levy (US Patent No. 4,884,507).

Claim 48 depends from Claim 10, and is believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood/Levy for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Meeks fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood/Levy.

Rejections over Liu/Wood/Nishiyama and Foley

Claim 50 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood/Levy in view of Foley (US Patent No. 4,518,627 and Levy (US Patent No. 4,884,507).

Claim 50 depends from Claim 10, and is believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood/Levy for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Foley fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood/Levy.

Rejections over Liu, Wood and Nishiyama

Claims 1, 4-10, 16-17, 19, 21-25, 27-28, 30 and 47-48 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu (2001/0052543) in view of Wood (US 5,041,922) and Levy (US Patent No. 4,884,507).

As set forth above Claim 1 is amended herein to recite (in pertinent part) "a hard disk drive storage medium...said plurality of magnetic domains having an areal density of between 2 megabits per sq. in. to about 10 gigabits per sq. in. and having a storage capability of more than 500 megabytes..." and Claim 10 is amended herein to recite (in pertinent part) "a hard disk drive storage medium...said magnetic material having an areal density of about 10 gigabits per sq. in and having a storage capability in the range of at least 500 megabytes...", and neither Liu nor Wood even remotely suggest this features in combination

with the other recited limitations recited in Claims 1 and 10. Levy fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood. As such, it would not have been obvious to combine the teachings of these references to produce the structures of Claims 1 and 10.

Claims 4-9 depend from Claim 1, and Claims 16-17, 19, 21-25, 27-28, 30 and 47-48 depend from Claim 10. Each of these claims is believed to be distinguished over the cited prior art for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claims 1 and 10.

Rejections over Liu/Wood/Levy and Hirasawa

Claims 24 and 25 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood/Levy in view of Hirasawa (US Patent No. 6,250,552) and Levy (US Patent No. 4,884,507).

Claims 24 and 25 depend from Claim 10, and are believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood/Levy for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Hirasawa fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood/Levy.

Rejections over Liu/Wood/Levy and Bajorek

Claims 26 and 49 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood/Levy in view of Bajorek (US Patent No. 6,482,330) and Levy (US Patent No. 4,884,507).

Claims 19, 26, 47 and 49 depend from Claim 10, and are believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood/Levy for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Bajorek fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood/Levy.

Rejections over Liu/Wood/Levy and Mizoguchi

Claim 29 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood/Levy in view of Mizoguchi (US Patent No. 5,689,105) and Levy (US Patent No. 4,884,507).

Claim 29 depends from Claim 10, and is believed to be distinguished over Davis for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Mizoguchi fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood/Levy.

Rejections over Liu/Wood/Levy and Nishiyama

Claim 38 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood/Levy in view of Nishiyama (US Patent No. 5,721,942) and Levy (US Patent No. 4,884,507). Claim 38 is canceled herein, thus obviating this rejection.

Rejections over Liu/Wood/Levy and Meeks

Claim 48 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood/Levy in view of Meeks (US Patent No. 6,268,919) and Levy (US Patent No. 4,884,507).

Claim 48 depends from Claim 10, and is believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood/Levy for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Meeks fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood/Levy.

Rejections over Liu/Wood/Levy and Foley

Claim 50 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood/Levy in view of Foley (US Patent No. 4,518,627 and Levy (US Patent No. 4,884,507).

Claim 50 depends from Claim 10, and is believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood/Levy for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Foley fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood/Levy.

Rejections over Liu, Wood, Nishiyama and Levy

Claims 1, 4-10, 16-17, 19, 21-25, 27-28, 30, 38 and 47-48 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu (2001/0052543) in view of Wood (US 5,041,922), Nishiyama (US Patent No. 5,721,942) and Levy (US Patent No. 4,884,507).

As set forth above Claim 1 is amended herein to recite (in pertinent part) "a hard disk drive storage medium...said plurality of magnetic domains having an areal density of between 2 megabits per sq. in. to about 10 gigabits per sq. in. and having a storage capability of more than 500 megabytes..." and Claim 10 is amended herein to recite (in pertinent part) "a hard disk drive storage medium...said magnetic material having an areal density of about 10 gigabits per sq. in and having a storage capability in the range of at least 500 megabytes...", and neither Liu nor Wood even remotely suggest these features in combination with the other recited limitations recited in Claims 1 and 10. As set forth above, Nishiyama and Levy fail to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood. As such, it would not have been obvious to combine the teachings of these references to produce the structures of Claims 1 and 10.

Claims 4-9 depend from Claim 1, and Claims 16-17, 19, 21-25, 27-28, 30 and 47-48 depend from Claim 10. Each of these claims is believed to be distinguished over the cited prior art for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claims 1 and 10. Claim 38 is canceled herein, thus obviating the rejection directed to this claim.

Rejections over Liu/Wood/Nishiyama/Levy and Hirasawa

Claims 24 and 25 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood/Nishiyama/Levy in view of Hirasawa (US Patent No. 6,250,552) and Levy (US Patent No. 4,884,507).

Claims 24 and 25 depend from Claim 10, and are believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood/Nishiyama/Levy for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Hirasawa fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood/Nishiyama/Levy.

Rejections over Liu/Wood/Nishiyama/Levy and Bajorek

Claims 26 and 49 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood/Nishiyama/Levy in view of Bajorek (US Patent No. 6,482,330) and Levy (US Patent No. 4,884,507).

Claims 19, 26, 47 and 49 depend from Claim 10, and are believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood/Nishiyama/Levy for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Bajorek fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood/Nishiyama/Levy.

Rejections over Liu/Wood/Nishiyama/Levy and Mizoguchi

Claim 29 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood/Nishiyama/Levy in view of Mizoguchi (US Patent No. 5,689,105) and Levy (US Patent No. 4,884,507).

Claim 29 depends from Claim 10, and is believed to be distinguished over Davis for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Mizoguchi fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood/Nishiyama/Levy.

Rejections over Liu/Wood/Nishiyama/Levy and Meeks

Claim 48 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood/Nishiyama/Levy in view of Meeks (US Patent No. 6,268,919) and Levy (US Patent No. 4,884,507).

Claim 48 depends from Claim 10, and is believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood/Nishiyama/Levy for reasons similar

to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Meeks fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood/Nishiyama/Levy.

Rejections over Liu/Wood/Nishiyama/Levy and Foley

Claim 50 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood/Nishiyama/Levy in view of Foley (US Patent No. 4,518,627 and Levy (US Patent No. 4,884,507).

Claim 50 depends from Claim 10, and is believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood/Nishiyama/Levy for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Foley fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood/Nishiyama/Levy.

Rejections over Liu, Wood and Porter

Claims 1, 4-10, 16-17, 19, 21-25, 27-28, 30, 38 and 47-48 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu (2001/0052543) in view of Wood (US 5,041,922) and Porter (US Patent No. 4,202,445).

As set forth above Claim 1 is amended herein to recite (in pertinent part) "...said plurality of magnetic domains having an areal density of between 2 megabits per sq. in. to about 10 gigabits per sq. in. and having a storage capability of more than 500 megabytes..." and Claim 10 is amended herein to recite (in pertinent part) "...said magnetic material having an areal density of about 10 gigabits per sq. in and having a storage capability in the range of at least 500 megabytes...", and neither Liu nor Wood even remotely suggest these features in combination with the other recited limitations recited in Claims 1 and 10. Porter fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood. As such, it would not have been obvious to combine the teachings of these references to produce the structures of Claims 1 and 10.

Claims 4-9 depend from Claim 1, and Claims 16-17, 19, 21-25, 27-28, 30 and 47-48 depend from Claim 10. Each of these claims is believed to be distinguished over the cited prior art for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claims 1 and 10. Claim 38 is canceled herein, thus obviating the rejection directed to this claim.

Rejections over Liu/Wood/Porter and Hirasawa

Claims 24 and 25 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood/Porter in view of Hirasawa (US Patent No. 6,250,552).

Claims 24 and 25 depend from Claim 10, and are believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood/Porter for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Hirasawa fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood/Porter.

Rejections over Liu/Wood/Porter and Bajorek

Claims 26 and 49 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood in view of Bajorek (US Patent No. 6,482,330).

Claims 19, 26, 47 and 49 depend from Claim 10, and are believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood/Porter for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Bajorek fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood/Porter.

Rejections over Liu/Wood/Porter and Mizoguchi

Claim 29 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood/Porter in view of Mizoguchi (US Patent No. 5,689,105).

Claim 29 depends from Claim 10, and is believed to be distinguished over Davis for reasons similar to those set forth

above with reference to Claim 10, and Mizoguchi fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood/Porter.

Rejections over Liu/Wood/Porter and Nishiyama

Claim 38 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood/Porter in view of Nishiyama (US Patent No. 5,721,942). Claim 38 is canceled herein, thus obviating this rejection.

Rejections over Liu/Wood/Porter and Meeks

Claim 48 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood/Porter in view of Meeks (US Patent No. 6,268,919).

Claim 48 depends from Claim 10, and is believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood/Porter for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Meeks fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood/Porter.

Rejections over Liu/Wood/Porter and Foley

Claim 50 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood/Porter in view of Foley (US Patent No. 4,518,627).

Claim 50 depends from Claim 10, and is believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood/Porter for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Foley fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood/Porter.

Rejections over Liu, Wood, Porter and Nishiyama

Claims 1, 4-10, 16-17, 19, 21-25, 27-28, 30, 38 and 47-48 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu (2001/0052543) in view of Wood (US 5,041,922), Nishiyama (US Patent No. 5,721,942) and Porter (US Patent No. 4,202,445).

As set forth above Claim 1 is amended herein to recite (in pertinent part) "a hard disk drive storage medium...said plurality of magnetic domains having an areal density of between 2 megabits per sq. in. to about 10 gigabits per sq. in. and having a storage capability of more than 500 megabytes..." and Claim 10 is amended herein to recite (in pertinent part) "a hard disk drive storage medium...said magnetic material having an areal density of about 10 gigabits per sq. in and having a storage capability in the range of at least 500 megabytes...", and neither Liu nor Wood even remotely suggest these features in combination with the other recited limitations recited in Claims 1 and 10. Nishiyama and Porter fail to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood for reasons set forth above. As such, it would not have been obvious to combine the teachings of these references to produce the structures of Claims 1 and 10.

Claims 4-9 depend from Claim 1, and Claims 16-17, 19, 21-25, 27-28, 30 and 47-48 depend from Claim 10. Each of these claims is believed to be distinguished over the cited prior art for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claims 1 and 10. Claim 38 is canceled herein, thus obviating the rejection directed to this claim.

Rejections over Liu/Wood/Porter/Nishiyama and Hirasawa

Claims 24 and 25 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood/Porter/Nishiyama in view of Hirasawa (US Patent No. 6,250,552).

Claims 24 and 25 depend from Claim 10, and are believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood/Porter/Nishiyama for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Hirasawa fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood/Porter/Nishiyama.

Rejections over Liu/Wood/Porter/Nishiyama and Bajorek

Claims 26 and 49 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood in view of Bajorek (US Patent No. 6,482,330).

Claims 19, 26, 47 and 49 depend from Claim 10, and are believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood/Porter/Nishiyama for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Bajorek fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood/Porter/Nishiyama.

Rejections over Liu/Wood/Porter/Nishiyama and Mizoguchi

Claim 29 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood/Porter/Nishiyama in view of Mizoguchi (US Patent No. 5,689,105).

Claim 29 depends from Claim 10, and is believed to be distinguished over Davis for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Mizoguchi fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood/Porter/Nishiyama.

Rejections over Liu/Wood/Porter/Nishiyama and Meeks

Claim 48 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood/Porter/Nishiyama in view of Meeks (US Patent No. 6,268,919).

Claim 48 depends from Claim 10, and is believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood/Porter/Nishiyama for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Meeks fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood/Porter/Nishiyama.

Rejections over Liu/Wood/Porter/Nishiyama and Foley

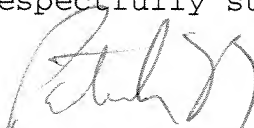
Claim 50 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood/Porter/Nishiyama in view of Foley (US Patent No. 4,518,627).

Claim 50 depends from Claim 10, and is believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood/Porter/Nishiyama for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Foley fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood/Porter/Nishiyama.

CONCLUSION

For the above reasons, Applicants believe Claims 1, 4-10, 16, 17, 19, 21-30 and 47-50 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the present paper, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



Customer No. 22888

Patrick T. Bever
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 33,834
408-451-5902